

THE HONORABLE JOHN C. COUGHENOUR

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON  
AT SEATTLE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

v.

YI JUN CHEN,

Defendant.

CASE NO. CR20-0171-JCC-3

MINUTE ORDER

The following Minute Order is made by direction of the Court, the Honorable John C. Coughenour, United States District Judge:

This matter comes before the Court on Defendant's motion for a remote change of plea hearing (Dkt. No. 117). Defendant seeks a remote hearing so that he can continue to care for his ailing mother in Chicago. (*Id.* at 3.) But he provides no legal authority supporting his request. The Court may conduct a felony plea hearing by video or telephone conference if the COVID-19 pandemic materially affects the functioning of the Court and the Court finds that the plea hearing cannot be further delayed without serious harm to the interests of justice. *See* Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, Pub. L. No. 116-136, §§ 15002(b)(2)(A), (b)(4), 134 Stat. 281, 528–29 (2020); W.D. Wash. General Order No. 06-21 (March 23, 2021). But Defendant provides no facts to support such a finding here.

1 Accordingly, Defendant's motion for a remote change of plea hearing is DENIED.  
2 Defendant may again move for such a hearing, but must provide facts and/or legal citation  
3 supporting the motion.

4 DATED this 13th day of August 2021.

5 Ravi Subramanian  
6 Clerk of Court

7 s/Sandra Rawski  
8 Deputy Clerk  
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